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Confetti Shower

New Japanese Iris Originations

*First offering of new American strain of Iris
kaempheri or Japanese Iris*

1950 LIST

W. A. PAYNE

Rural Route No. 3
Terre Haute, Ind.

FOREWORD

In the production of this strain of Japanese iris no effort has been spared to produce the highest quality. All plants grown are pedigreed, all crosses have been carefully planned before blooming season—some for a few years before crosses are made. No haphazard or spur of the moment crosses have been made at any time.

Inasmuch as the following list of varieties is the first to be released after eighteen years of serious work in this section of the iris family the purchaser is naturally interested in learning what to expect of them.

Doubtless that which ranks first in importance in any plant or strain of plants is vigor, or the ability to withstand adverse growing conditions as no matter how beautiful a flower may be if it is a poor grower most of us would not care to bother with it; consequently my first aim has been to develop a strain adapted to our midwestern climatic conditions which are not so favorable for the growing of these iris. It is obvious a strain which originates under these less favorable conditions should be even better in a locality more to its liking.

Plants here are grown for at least three years closely spaced in trial beds which are precision planted allowing all plants as far as possible an equal chance. This is calculated to automatically eliminate weaklings. Varieties which show promise are transplanted to nursery rows and further tested for at least three years. However all this would avail little unless rigid rules were observed in the selection of varieties. To begin with any variety which shows weakness or unwillingness to bloom is either destroyed or if further retained is held in an effort to correct the defect or it may be kept for comparison purposes and is not permitted to leave the garden. All varieties listed here have been good growers and generous bloomers in our garden.

After a vigorous plant the flowers should possess beauty which is manifested in form, color and carriage. On account of the very limited color range in Japanese iris form is of primary importance. Of the various forms, and they are almost unlimited in variety as the Japanese iris shows greater variation in form than most other flowers, only those which are pleasing are acceptable. Size alone does not insure a superior flower as some large flowers lack refinement or are ungainly while others are exquisitely beautiful. Also the flower should have sufficient substance to hold its attractive shape.

Then of color, clear color and decisive markings are most pleasing, dull or indifferent coloring and indefinite markings are seldom if ever satisfactory and also placement of color or color arrangement may enhance or mar the beauty of a flower, it should form an interesting color pattern.

Plant habit is a very important consideration and a pleasing balance should exist between plant and flower—a flower which appears too small for the plant or one carried on a stem too tall for its size or the opposite effect is definitely not pleasing. Stems should be sufficiently large and strong to carry the flowers whatever their size, frequently stems are flexible or sprawling this is a serious fault. Again flowers should be borne on stems with sufficiently long and well spaced branches that they are not crowded and the more branches to a stem the greater the number of flowers the plant produces. Flowers should be well carried or poised on stem without the disgusting habit of hiding their faces because of a weak neck. Also the plant itself should look well in the garden.

All these things and others are given consideration in the selection of varieties for naming. All varieties listed may not possess all these good qualities in full measure but the lack of any one to an appreciable extent would have prevented its inclusion in this list.

*Colors noted are in accordance with
Nomenclature and heights given on*

FLYING TIGER

This medium size six petal, crisp, rather flat shaped, smooth textured flower with waved petals of clear color and decisive markings made its appearance when the exploits of the Flying Tigers occupied the news columns. Its coloring is light, faintly tinted violet with sharply defined, narrow veins of bluish violet etched on the rather small petals. A dark center of mulberry purple accents the flower which is similar to the variety "Helene". A very free and reliable bloomer with good stems to 50 in. high though generally nearer 40 in. A midseason bloomer. **\$3.50 each.**

NIGHT MUSIC

A rather large, six petal, high built, beautifully formed, velvety flower of uniform dark blue-violet. Falls are straight hanging, much ruffled and waved and center of flower is up-standing. It has good substance and holds up well in warm weather. Strong, branched stems to 39 in. high. Blooms in late midseason. **\$7.50 each.**

FASHION MODEL

Flower of good size for one of nine petals. A more or less formal flower, circular in shape of uniform bright and intense flourite violet with velvety texture borne on a well branched stem to 45 in. high. A generous and dependable bloomer in late midseason. **\$15.00 each.**

JOYOUS CAVALIER

Large and beautifully formed three petal flower of white with a wide border of royal purple. The pure white center of the large rounded petals radiates out in broadened veins almost to edge of petals. The rather small oval standards and white styles have a narrow edging of royal purple and are upstanding forming a cup shaped center. It is a very free and reliable bloomer and an especially gay and delightful flower blooming in early midseason. Stems are not tall—to 44 in. but are strong and have good branching. **\$20.00 each.**

SCHERZO

I offer this as one of the most beautiful and refined of all in color and form. Flowers of splashed coloring often are unattractive—they are more of an oddity. This one is of raisin purple boldly and rather uniformly splashed with white, this color extends throughout the flower and a slight blue halo surrounds the yellow patches. This pleasing color is held to the end. Its broad, well rounded and ruffled petals are held flaring to straight-hanging and the standards and styles form a more or less globular or torch shape in the center which lends distinction to this charming flower. Flowers are large and are carried on large, strong, long-branched stems 42 in. high. Blooms freely in late midseason. **\$22.50 each.**

ROSE CAVALIER

This is a showy three petal, good sized, bright, medium red-purple colored flower with white undercolor showing through the pansy violet color on falls and with heavy veins

Varities

*with Ridgway's Color Standards and
are from actual measurements.*

radiating from an amethyst violet halo, center of flower is uniform prune purple edged with a white hairline. Flowers are beautifully poised on straight, medium heavy, strong, stems to 49 in. high. Early midseason bloomer. A distinctive and beautiful variety. **\$22.50 each.**

SILVERCREST

A massive, six petal, rather flat, light colored flower with a dark center. The comparatively small, waived falls are white very delicately tinted Rood's violet which becomes heavy at hafts, with a lightly sanded halo and sharply defined radiating veins of royal purple. Styles are solid mulberry purple color which has the appearance of having been lightly rubbed off leaving flower light at extreme center. A very fine, large plant with large, strong, well branched stems to 48 in. high. A variety of much distinction. **\$22.50 each.**

BUTTERFLY PRINCE

This is a very large three petal flower of clean pinkish color effect freely produced on very tall, strong and widely branched stems. The ruffled flowers of medium substance flutter in the breeze reminding one of huge butterflies. Its slightly red tinted white falls have clean cut mulberry purple veins radiating from center with a very slight sanding of same color between veins and have a slight blue halo, they are held flaring to straight hanging. The large standards are of Rood's violet with a broad white edge. Styles are mulberry purple edged light. To 54 in. tall. An outstanding variety in every way blooming in midseason. **\$25.00 each.**

CONFETTI SHOWER

A large six petal, beautifully formed, rosy colored flower of medium intensity with a darker center borne freely on strong, well and widely bronched stems to 50 in. high. Pansy violet coloring is densely stippled on the light rosy tinted background of falls blending from a light center outward to a heavier deposit of color on edges. A broad, delicate blue, blended halo surrounds the yellow signal patches. Styles are upstanding, stippled same color and stained pansy violet on ends. A distinctive, very colorful and stylish flower. Its name well describes the gayety of this multicolored flower which is totally unlike any other Japanese iris I have seen. A favorite with all visitors to the garden. A rather early and sure bloomer. See illustration on cover. **\$25.00 each.**

COBRA DANCER

A large six petal flower of fine shape and good substance freely produced on tall 50 in., straight, strong stems with long, widely spaced branches. Falls have a light undercolor overlaid with mulberry purple and a rather large darker halo surrounding the prominent yellow signal patches which light up the flower and dark veins of same color radiate from halo. The light undercolor shows through the mulberry purple coloring giving the effect of a rare oriental fabric. The uniformly colored styles are mulberry purple edged lighter. A flower of lively coloring and bold habit. A midseason bloomer, outstanding in every way. All things considered this probably is my best variety to date. **\$25.00 each.**

A New System of Marketing Varieties

Inasmuch as it is impossible for me to plant and maintain large stocks necessary for a customary commercial iris business without seriously interfering with the continued development of my hybridizing program which now is well established and should be more productive each year. It is my intention to keep the commercial aspect subordinate to the production of new varieties. I am placing these introductions on the market at a fixed price which at first may seem excessive but in consideration of the fact that after eighteen years of effort not more than twenty-five varieties developed to date will reach the market, prices asked are certainly not exorbitant. In establishing these prices available stock has not been a consideration but it has been my aim to price them according to their relative merits. Furthermore when the purchaser acquires sufficient stock to offer them for sale lower than the introductory price I shall omit the variety from my price list leaving distribution of stock to the dealer or dealers though I may occasionally sell varieties in surplus to visitors to the garden but shall make no effort to do so as I have adopted this plan of marketing solely to rid myself of the work associated with the selling of iris in the usual manner and I will at no time enter into competition with the dealer.

Terms and Conditions

My own originations are offered exclusively as no other varieties are grown except for comparison purposes or occasional use in breeding operations and none are for sale. Prices listed are net and remittance must accompany order, no orders accepted for C. O. D. shipment. No charge for packing. Shipments by Parcel Post prepaid anywhere in the U. S., elsewhere consignee must pay transportation charges. Available stock is limited and orders should be placed early to avoid disappointment. All orders will be filled in same sequence as received and no substitutions will be made unless requested. Stock supplied will be one year plants when available otherwise strong natural divisions from one or two year plants only may be supplied assuring vigorous stock which under favorable conditions should give a good percentage of bloom first season after planting. Shipping season early Fall, late September or early October unless otherwise requested which will be at customers risk.

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